Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00939 201746Z ACTION EUR-03

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R 201600Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3296

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. REGRET GARBLE IN SCHOMACKER TELEPHONE NUMBER (PARA 5, STATE 13199). IT IS (913)262-5494. ADDRESS IS 5530 CHADWICK, SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS 66205. (IT IS SAME ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER AS THAT USED BY SOV FOR CALLS TO SCHOMACKERS REGARDING JOE'S XMAS TRAVEL.)

2. WE ARE SOMEWHAT DISTURBED BY FINAL NOTE STRUCK IN HARTMAN-DOBRYNIN CONVERSATION ON CHANCERIES, I.E., THAT IF SOVIETS DO NOT MOVE ON OUR NEEDS HERE, WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL BOTH SIDES ARE READY TO START CONSTRUCTION. IF IMPLICATION IS THAT WE WILL START CONSTRUCTION REGARDLESS OF SOVIET REPONSIVENESS OR LACK OF RESPONSIVENESS TO OUR CURRENT NEEDS HERE, THEN WE FEEL THAT THIS IS UNFORTUNATE IMPRESSION TO LEAVE. THE FACT IS THAT OUR EMBASSY HERE WILL HAVE TO OPERATE AT LEAST FOUR OR FIVE YEARS WHILE NEW COMPLEX IS CONSTRUCTED (EVEN THIS MAY BE OPTIMISTIC), AND WE FEEL THAT IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO SOVIETS THAT WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO TOLERATE A CONTINUATION OF THEIR CHRONIC PRACTICE OF SHORTCOMING US. IN CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHER WORDS, WE WOULD HOPE THE MESSAGE COULD BE THE FOLLOWING: WE ARE ASKING FOR NOTHING UNREASONABLE AND NOTHING THAT WE SHOULD NOT HAVE RECEIVED LONG AGO IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF EVENTS; UNTIL THESE MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS ARE MET CONSTRUCTION WILL NOT BE STARTED ON EITHER NEW CHANCERY; SINCE THE SOVIETS MUST PRODUCE SOONER OR LATER IT IS CLEARLY IN THEIR INTEREST TO DO SO

SOONER AND THEREBY PERMIT AN EARLIER START ON THEIR APARTMENTS.

3. RE ROBERT NATHANIEL ROBINSON, OUR FILE CONTAINS NOVEMBER 13, 1972, OM FROM PASSPORT OFFICE WHICH STATES THAT ROBINSON'S NATURALIZATION WAS CANCELLED AS FRAUDULENT BY DECREE OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ON OCTOBER 24, 1940. DEPARTMENT CONCLUDED THAT "MR. ROBINSON'S STATUS IS AS THOUGH HE HAD NEVER BEEN NATURALIZED AS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES." WE ARE POUCHING A COPY OF THE FILE TO EUR/SOV FOR LEN WILLEMS.

4. RE FUERTH, IF HE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR TRANSFER WITHIN FEW WEEKS, WE WOULD PREFER TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT PROSPECTS FOR TRANSFER DURING SUMMER OF A STRONG CLASS 3 OFFICER, AND MAKE INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS HERE. FOR EXAMPLE, GILMORE MIGHT BE A POSSIBILITY FOR A SUMMER TRANSFER. HE TOLD ME LAST WEEK ON THE TELEPHONE THAT HIS MAIN PROBLEM WITH ASSIGNEMENT WAS TIMING, SINCE HE DID NOT WISH TO PULL HIS SON OUT OF SCHOOL IN MID-YEAR. (MAYBE THERE WAS MORE POLITESSE THAN CANDOR IN THIS COMMENT, BECAUSE HE TOLD DARRYL JOHNSON THE OTHER DAY THAT HIS WIFE DOES NOT WANT TO RETURN TO MOSCOW, BUT IT SUGGESTS THAT IT MIGHT BE WORTH A QUERY REGARDING HIS TAKING THE JOB DURING THE SUMMER). IF WE COULD GET GILMORE OR SOMEONE COMPARABLE IN THE SUMMER, WE COULD MAKE INTERIM ADJUSTMENTS ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

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A. ARRANGE FOR LOUIS SELL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM GARMISCH ASAP, AND ASSIGN HIM TO CONSULAR SECTION;
B. SHIFT RAY SMITH FROM CONSULAR TO POL WHEN GROSS RETURNS FROM HOME LEAVE IN APRIL; AND
C. MAKE MCNAMARA ACTING HEAD OF POL/EXT UNTIL GILMORE'S ARRIVAL;

D. SHIFT SMITH FROM POL/EXT TO FORD POSITION IN POL/INT WHEN FORD LEAVES THIS SUMMER.

(UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT, HUGHES WOULD CONTINUE AS PPO NEXT YEAR AND SELL WOULD WORK IN CONSULAR INSTEAD OF PPO.)

TOON

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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